

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 10th November 2022 in Wittering Parish Hall

PRESENT

John Bradshaw (Chairman)
Julia Cunnington
Geoff Dunkley
Joanna Gault
Dave Hughes
Emma Wilson-Jones

IN ATTENDANCE

Cate Harding, Co-Ordinator Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough
Danielle Black, Integrated Neighbourhood Programme Manager
Stn Cdr Wg Cdr Jez Case, RAF Wittering
Mark Davis, Community Development Officer, RAF Wittering
Mike Horne, John Clare Countryside Project
Charlotte Blake, Wittering Primary School
9 Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

PRESENTATIONS

Cate Harding, Co-Ordinator Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough explained that Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough is a community-led charity that was established in 2019. Its remit is to keep people living in their own homes safely and for as long as possible by co-ordinating volunteers to help with tasks such as befriending, shopping, basic DIY, gardening and transport. Residents can self-refer or be referred by medical/care professionals, social workers or relatives/friends. Danielle Black explained that Integrated Neighbourhood Programme delivers on the Long-Term Plan to improve the health outcomes of local people and to improve the quality of local health and social care. The two both projects work side-by-side. All present agreed to formally adopt the projects.

Initially, an audit of the community including its social assets and activities will be undertaken before the project is publicised by way of posters, Facebook and mailshots. Julia Cunnington agreed to be the contact person for the mailshot.

Mike Horne, John Clare Countryside Project, said that an area on Parker Road (on the far side of the playground) has been identified as a suitable place to plant a selection of trees. It is unclear as to who owns the land. It was agreed by all present to go ahead with this project at a cost of £260 including delivery. Members of the Youth Club and Scouts will be invited to help plant the trees. Other sites that could be considered for similar projects include the left-hand side of Townsend Road and/or Burghley Avenue.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Sophie Joy, Simon Hurn, Maxine Palmer, Iain Wilkinson and PCC Ward Councillor Gavin Elsey.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

John Bradshaw and Geoff Dunkley declared an interest in all matters concerning All Saints' Church (as they are Church Wardens).

3. **MINUTES** of the meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 8th September 2022 were reviewed and approved.

Proposed by:- Geoff Dunkley **Seconded by:-** Emma Wilson-Jones

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

The Members of the Public raised the following matters:-

- Plans for better road safety measures on Old Oundle Road (particularly on the pond corner). The Clerk will ask Gavin Elsey for an update as he has been dealing with this.
- Overflowing drains – this have been a problem during the recent bout of heavy rain. Unfortunately, there is not one authority responsible for dealing with this. A village-walkaround with Gavin Elsey will be re-scheduled.
- Emptying of dog foul bins – this should not be an issue as the Parish Council has funded the regular emptying of the bins but, if they are only half-full, they are not emptied.
- Difficulties with reading the Parish Hall Diary on an iPad or mobile phone. Becki Sharman will put this on the Wittering Residents' Facebook page and the Clerk will speak to the Website Administrator.
- No numbers on parking spaces – house numbers can be painted in the relevant space if this is shown in residents' house deeds.
- Any update on the proposed housing development on Old Oundle Road – there has been no Planning Application submitted to date.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

Gavin Elsey was not present so there was no update on this item. The Clerk will ask him for an update

ii) **Future of the Parish Hall Update**

The Chairman had attended a Parish Council Liaison Meeting on 9th November 2022 and had made several useful contacts. He plans to visit some newly built Parish Halls within the Peterborough area to gather information and ideas from the Parish Councils. It was agreed that the NHS Blood Donor Service would be welcome to use the Parish Hall for donor sessions.

iii) **Summer Fete 2023**

Joanna Gault gave a presentation on her plans to organise a Summer Fete on 15th July 2023. This will include more activities for children. Fund-raising activities towards financially supporting the project will be undertaken. Thanks were expressed to Joanna Gault for her continued hard work with this project.

iv) **Christmas Tree 2022**

Simon Hurn has sourced a Christmas Tree which will probably be sited near to the Village Sign. Joanna Gault has obtained battery-operated lights to decorate the tree.

v) **Warm Space Questionnaire**

Helen Robinson reported on the recent survey that had been undertaken on whether residents would be interested in attending/volunteering at a Warm Space in the village which would provide tea/coffee and companionship. Charlotte Blake offered use of a room at the Wittering Families Centre and Mark Davis offered the use of a room at the RAF Community Centre. It was agreed that the Clerk will send the data from the survey to both parties. Helen Robinson confirmed that she would not be able to organise a Warm Space

due to her current commitments. It was agreed that a mailshot could be organised once a decision is made about which room to use.

6. **POLICE REPORT**

i) **Anti-Social Behaviour – Door Knocking**

This anti-social behaviour has upset several of the village's older residents. It was agreed that the plans to increase more youth work within the village will hopefully have the effect of the cessation of this behaviour.

ii) **Neighbourhood Watch Update**

Liz Putterill was not present at the meeting and had not submitted an update.

7. **RAF REPORT**

Mark Davis had submitted a RAF Report prior to the meeting and went over the salient points. Thanks were expressed to Mark Davis for his continued hard work within the village

8. **ALLISON HOMES DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Paul Vasey stated that 71 houses have now been completed (4 ahead of target) and the development is on target to be completed by October 2024. Health & Safety scores are steady and have recently increased; there have been no real issues with this. There has been a recent break-in on the site, so residents are advised to be vigilant. Allison Homes will be erecting streetlights over the whole development. He had sent an email to all the contractors working on the site regarding the complaints of speeding in the village by workers getting to/from the site. All present agreed to accept the kind donation of a solar-panel defibrillator for the site from Allison Homes. Paul Vasey will liaise with Dave Hughes who is the Defibrillator Custodian in the village.

9. **SPORTS' & SOCIAL CLUB REPORT**

No Report had been submitted.

10. **BOWLS' CLUB REPORT**

i) **Bowls' Club Agreement**

John Hare had signed the Bowls' Club Agreement. There have only ever been two keys to the Bowls' Club Pavilion, and one is missing. It is not possible to obtain any copies. Dave Hughes proposed that a new key-locking system is installed, this was seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones and agreed by all present. The contractor who cuts the hedge around the Bowls' Club is retiring in approximately 18 months and he is struggling to cut it, so the Parish Council Owned Buildings' Sub-Committee needs to discuss this issue.

ii) **Back Door and Canopy**

The Clerk had received the quotations for these two items.

11. **FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT**

No Report had been submitted.

12. ALL SAINTS' CHURCH REPORT

Rev Gary Alderson reported the forthcoming events include the Remembrance Sunday Service (13th November 2022); Carols Around the Tree (15th December 2022); Christingle (10.30 am 18th December 2022); Crib and Carol Service (4.00 pm 24th December 2022) and Christmas Day Service (10.30 am 25th December 2022).

13. ALLOTMENTS' REPORT

Geoff Dunkley reported that there are some small works that need to be undertaken at the allotments' site and it was agreed that he could ask Simon Hurn to undertake the required works.

14. 2ND WITTERING SCOUTS' REPORT

Rick and Gillian Amos gave an update on the plans to building a Scout Hut in the village. The Tree Survey has now been completed and quotes received for the fencing and concrete slabs. They are investigating the possibility of using free labour for the initial works. They asked if £20,000 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund could be ring-fenced for the initial costs of the project. The Parish Councillors did not agree to this but asked that further information on the quotes is sent to the Clerk.

15. LAND IN THE VILLAGE SUB-COMMITTEE

Maxine Palmer will set the date for this committee to meet.

16. PARISH COUNCIL OWNED BUILDINGS' SUB-COMMITTEE

The Chairman will set the date for this committee to meet. A member of the public volunteered to join the Parish Councillors.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

- i) Communities Prepared – New Online HUB Launch – 13th October 2022
- ii) Parish Council Liaison Meeting – 9th November 2022

18. FINANCE

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31st October 2022 was reviewed and approved as presented.
Proposed by:- Geoff Dunkley **Seconded by:-** Dave Hughes
- ii) **Finance Sub-Committee Report**
The Clerk had already circulated the Finance Sub-Committee Report. The next meeting will take place in the New Year.
- iii) **Budget and Precept 2023-2024**
The Budget and proposed Precept had already been circulated. The proposed increase of £5,000 to the Precept was proposed by Geoff Dunkley, seconded by Joanna Gault and agreed by all present.

iv) **Request for funding towards the cost of 89 T-Shirts**

It was agreed to donate £1,380 towards the cost of 89 T-Shirts for the Young Voices Concert which will be attended by pupils of Wittering Primary School. This was proposed by Emma Wilson-Jones, seconded by Dave Hughes and agreed by all present. The Chairman asked if the pupils could be tasked to design a logo for the Parish Council and this was agreed by Charlotte Blake.

v) **Request for funding a baby changing mat**

This was proposed by Dave Hughes, seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones and agreed by all present. It will be sited in the Disabled Toilet in the Parish Hall.

vi) **Request for funding towards the Airplay Holiday Programme 2023**

As this project is still several months away and the RAF are still applying for funding, it was agreed to defer a decision on this until a future meeting.

19. **VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS**

Dave Hughes has kindly volunteered to be the Defibrillator Custodian in the village and is looking at obtaining signage indicating where the defibrillators are located within the village. Roger Paull has ordered some lights to indicate where the defibrillators are located on the camp. Dave Hughes is looking at what has happened to the defibrillator that is missing from the box on the Bowls' Club wall.

20. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 12th January 2023 at Wittering Parish Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

12/01/23